

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application in view of the foregoing amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested. The Examiner required that a drawing be submitted. Applicants attach Figure 1 depicting an embodiment of the invention.

The Examiner rejected claims 1 through 5 and 8 through 17 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by United States Patent No. 6,183,084 (the “ ‘084 patent “) or U.S. Application No. 2002/0164484 (the “ ‘484 application”). According to the Examiner, the ‘084 patent “teaches a multifocal lens ... where the lens has at least on a portion of the substrate a layer of high refractive index material ...” Further according to the Examiner, the ‘484 application “teaches a multifocal lens ... where the lens has at least on a portion of the substrate a layer of a high refractive index material. ...”

Applicants’ invention is directed to multifocal lenses and methods for their production. The invention provides for the manufacture of multifocal lenses by deposition of an inorganic high refractive index material onto at least a portion of a substrate. Neither the ‘084 patent nor the ‘484 application teach or suggest Applicants’ claimed invention.

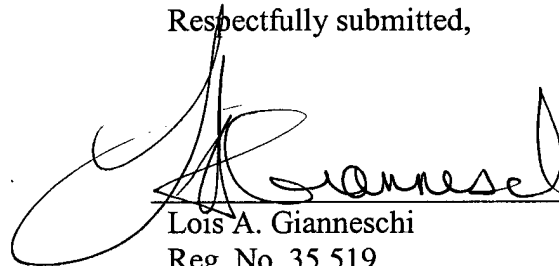
The ‘084 patent is directed to the use of a compensating surface to reduce the astigmatism introduced into the lens by one or more of the other lens surfaces. At column 5, lines 33 through 59, the ‘084 patent discloses the use of two layers in addition to the compensating layer. One of the layers is described as being “fabricated of an optical material of a high refractive index, meaning of a refractive index of at least 1.57 ...” Additionally disclosed is that a “second layer bounded ... is provided ... with a refractive index of less than about 1.57.” Further, it is disclosed that the “efficiency of the compensation provided by the compensating surface will depend on the difference of the refractive indices of the two layers.” Finally, the ‘084 patent discloses that “some or all of the desired spherical power may be provided by the layer bound by the front and compensating surfaces ...”

The '084 patent fails to teach or disclose the use of high refractive index materials to form one or both of a near and intermediate vision zone as claimed by Applicants and, thus, cannot sustain a Section 102(e) rejection. Withdrawal of the Section 102(e) rejection based on the '084 patent is respectfully requested.

The '484 application discloses the use of organic polymeric materials as portions of a composite lens. One layer of the lens may be "of a first polymeric material with a refractive index of at least 1.60 ..." No disclosure is provided in the '484 application of inorganic high index materials. Thus, the '484 application cannot be the basis for a Section 102(e) rejection of Applicant's claims. Withdrawal of the Section 102(e) rejection based on the '484 application is respectfully requested.

Applicants submit that the claims, as amended, are in condition for allowance. Entry of the amendments, withdrawal of the rejection, and allowance of the claims are requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lois A. Gianneschi", is written over a horizontal line.

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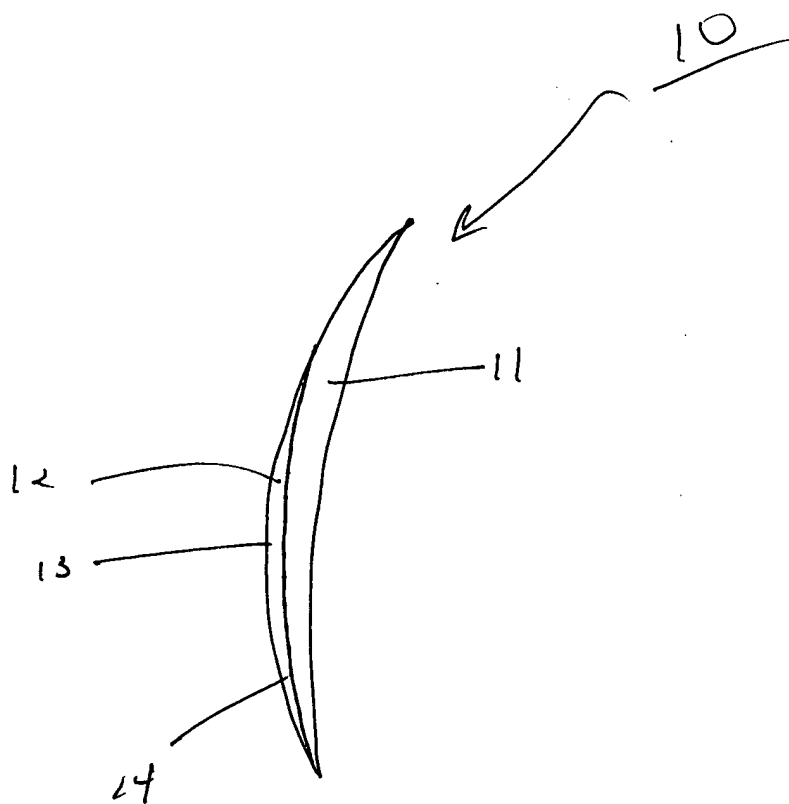


FIGURE 1